Special Topic

EGS 00-01: Discovery and Control of Legacy Radiological Material

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Legacy Contamination

Background

Radioactive contamination resulting from historical activities that is unrelated to current operations.

Overview of contractor "practices" that led EH-10 to consider development of EGS.

Pre-EGS discussions of legacy contamination issues at EFCOG PAAA working group's semiannual meetings.

Legacy Contamination

Regulations

Part 835 does not discuss pre-existing or legacy contamination situations.

Part 835 does not exclude pre-existing or legacy contamination conditions.

Sections of Part 835 that can apply to legacy contamination:

835.401(a)(2) - document radiological conditions

835.603(e) - "Contamination Area" posting

835.1102(b) and (c) - control of contamination areas

Part 830.120 can also apply with respect to Work Processes and Quality Improvement.

Part 835 does not directly address soil contamination.

Legacy Contamination

Enforcement

EH-10 issued EGS in May 2000.

Legacy contamination due to historical operations but EGS avoids defining "historical."

To invoke enforcement discretion, contractor needs to be proactive in assessing potential for legacy contamination and providing appropriate remediation and worker protection.

Legacy contamination-related noncompliances should be reported to the NTS if the noncompliance meets the reporting thresholds. Otherwise, describe in nonreportable event database along with any corrective actions.